leased Rs. 52 lakhs. Air India, Indian Airlines and National Airports Authority has been asked to contribute their share of Rs. 275 lakhs in the ratio of 37.5 percent, 37.5 percent and 25 percent.

Promotion of tourism during the tourism year

*153. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to attract tourists into the country during the tourism year;

(b) what is the number of tourists that visited the country during the year as compared to last years, year-wise;

(c) what has been the contribution of various State Governments to boost tourism; and

(d) whether any exceptional tourist resort has been deveolped during this year and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The steps taken by the Government to attract tourists into the country during the tourism year include improvement of tourist facilities, opening up of new areas, promoting fairs and festivals and other special events and wider publicity of tourist attractions in India.

(b) The number of tourists, including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, who visited the country during the first ten months of the year 1991 as compared to the previous three years are as given below:

Year (Jan—Act.	Tourist Arrivals
1988	12,52,137
1989	13,77,332
1990	13,75,647
1991	13,00,106

(c) and (d) The State/Union Territory Governments have been involved in the creation of tourism infrastructural facilities for boosting tourism.

Implementation of new distribution policy of coal

*154. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has decided to set up a high level committee to implement the new distribution policy of coal for the large, medium and small consumers; and

(b) if so, by when the committee will bring out the proposals and implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The distribution policy for coal requires periodical reviews to adjust to the changing patterns of demand and supply in order to maximise consumer satisfaction. Recently, a paper on the subject has been prepared and the views of State Governments on the paper have been invited. A decision on the proposal will be taken keeping in view all the suggestions received in this regard. No high level committee has been set up in the Govt. as of now for implementing the policy.

(b) Does not arise.

National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

*155. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have approved 8 highways in the State of Madhya Pradesh to be declared as National Highways;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that so far only one highway has been declared as National by the Central Government;

(d) if so, what are the reasons for not declaring the other approved highways as National Highways; and

(e) by when the rest of the approved highways will be declared as National Highways by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. After the Independence, two new National Highways have been declared in Madhya Pradesh *vide* details below:—

S. No.	No. of N.H.	Description	Length (in Kms.)
(i)	N.H. No. 12	Jabalpur—Jaipur	460
(ii)	N.H. No. 16	Nizamabad—Jagdalpur	210

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The decision about the declaration of new National Highways in various States including Madhya Pradesh would be taken only after the formulation of 8th Five Year Plan, subject to availability of funds and certain other criteria laid down for the purpose. It is, therefore, too early to spell out the position at this point of time.

Clearance of mining-cum-thermal power project of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

*156. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Investment Board has cleared a mining-cum-thermal power project of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation with an outlay of Rs. 21.04 crore;

(b) what is the likely increase of the raw lignite mining capacity in metric tonnes and also thermal power production, annually, by the above project and by when the project is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) what are the other projects of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited in which the Corporation has decided to invest during the current financial year alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During the year 1991-92, Neyveli Lignite Corpoartion has seven sanctioned projects under execution. The details, including sanctioned cost, capacity and